RAJYA SABHA

lay, the 15th My, 1996/the 24t, Asadha, 1918 (Saka)

The House met at the eleven of th e : Mr. Chairman *in the Chair.*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Radical Changes in P.D.S.

61SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be aksed to state:

(a) Whether Government propose to radical changes in the country's Distribution System so as to the maximum benefit to the poor

(b) f so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the views of Panchayat 'oluntary Organisations engaged ng the standard of poor people l be taken into account; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLICE DISTRIBUTION (SHRI JENDRA PRASAD YADAV):(a) to (d) Government proposes to Camline the PDS with its focus on the poor. The details are being worked out in consultation with the Governments.

Commodities under P.D.S.

62.SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be aksed to state:

(a)details of the commodities being nbuted under P.D.S.;

(b) whether the prices of imodities under P.D.S. were constant during last three years or they had increased, if so, by how much;

(c) the States which are supplying rice, wheat at below the prices fixed by the Central Government for P.D.S. and rate of such supply in the States; and

(d) whether the Central Government are considering to have uniform prices under P.D.S. throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Central Government makes available the essential commodities, namely, rice, wheat, sugar, imported palmolein, soft coke and kerosene oil to States/UTs for distribution through the Public Distribution System (PDS).

(b) The details of Central Issue Prices (CIP) for PDS commodities during the last three years are given in Statement-I see below. It is observed that the CIP of rice, wheat and sugar have been increased once during the last three years whereas there has been no increase in CIPs of kerosene oil and soft coke.

c) and (d) The Central Government issues rice and wheat at uniform Central Issue Prices as mentioned in Statement-I. However, some State Governments like Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kamataka, Orissa, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu are supplying rice and wheat at. below the Central Issue Prices as per details given in Statement-ll.